

Corrective Actions Authorized by City Council to Prevent Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO), Permit Violations, etc. Since 2009

Most if not all of the following actions are best management practices (BMPs) outlined in Capacity Maintenance Operation Management (CMOM) manuals.

- July 2009 – Started implementation of Computerized Maintenance Management Software throughout the Utility Department to document and track all departmental activities including SSO's; water and sewer system repairs; equipment maintenance; Pre-treatment Program; Fats Oils and Greases (FOG) Prevention Program; Backflow Program; updates to Geographical Information System (GIS) data; etc. with the main focus on future prevention.
- January 2010 – Received CDM's Criticality and Condition Assessment Report on the Valdosta Sanitary Sewer System. Recommendations and Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) implemented with minor revisions.
- April 2010 – Implementation of the FOG Prevention Program. Main focus over first two years is restaurants and commercial kitchens and will be followed by residential public education effort.
- September 2010 – Final Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) repairs made on bio-solids conveyor and multi-media filters.
- September 2010 – Authorized contract for 30% design on new force main, pump stations, headworks and equalization (EQ) basin to replace inflow and infiltration (I&I) prone 54-inch gravity main to the Withlacoochee Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and flood prone influent pump station at this facility. Scope includes Design Development Report (DDR) and Environmental Information Document (EID) for review by Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD). The 100% design would be placed on hold until all efforts to relocate the Withlacoochee WWTP through FEMA had been exhausted. The 100% design work was included in the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) proposal.
- October 2010 – Authorized Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) evaluation of both the Mud Creek and Knights Creek main trunk lines feeding the Mud Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. Evaluation found lines and manholes in good shape.
- October 2010 – Authorized cleaning of the Withlacoochee influent pump station wet well including bypass pumping to complete work.
- December 2010 – Purchase of 70 acres of land at higher elevation (54-feet above existing plant) for future relocation of the Withlacoochee WWTP in the near future as well as location for new headworks and EQ basin currently under design.
- December 2010 – Authorized the replacement of 4 problematic sewer lift stations (Ponderosa, Big County Club, Mack Drive and Eastwind). Replacement consisted of conversion to submersible type stations with increased wet well capacity. Work also includes implementation of Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) in all new or upgraded stations.
- January 2011 – Adoption of new Water & Sewer Standards and Specifications Manual with Details for all future construction work.

- March 2011 – Authorized the replacement of the following major equipment at the Withlacoochee WWTP: both Sludge Pumps, Roughing Tower Controllers, Nitrification Pumps, 3-Influent Pump Station Impellers, 6-Return Activated Sludge (RAS) Pump Impellers, and RAS Controllers.
- April 2011 – Implemented Phase 1 of a multi-year Manhole Replacement / Rehabilitation Program completing 30 of the most severely deteriorated manholes found to date.
- July 2011 – Received authorization to undertake a formal rate analysis with recommendation for approval and implementation by City Council.
- July 2011 – Designed and constructed new sewer lift station on Tucker Road to replace aging gravity main.
- October 2011 – Major repairs made to belt press equipment at the Withlacoochee WWTP.
- February 2012 – Phase 2 of the Manhole Replacement / Rehabilitation Program implemented with the next 30 manholes on list.
- May 2012 – Goodyear lift station overhauled and upgraded.
- August 2012 – Authorized CCTV work on the Big Country Club Pump Station service area to identify I&I issues.
- August 2012 – Approved 100% design of new force main, pump stations, headworks and EQ basin project following FEMA denial of final appeal by the City of Valdosta.
- August 2012 – Authorized emergency repairs to the Withlacoochee Influent Pump Station including replacement of broken 20-inch valve.
- September 2012 – Replacement of all SCADA radios to meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) narrow banding deadline.
- 2012 Remaining Projects – Upgrade or replacement of 4 additional lift stations; Phase 3 of Manhole Replacement / Rehabilitation Program.
- 2013 Projects – Piping and Blower replacement at the Withlacoochee WWTP; Upgrade or replacement of 4 additional lift stations; Phase 4 of Manhole Replacement / Rehabilitation Program; Acquire easements for force main project route; develop specification and bid document for force main, pump stations, headworks and EQ Basin project; and replacement of primary clarifiers at the Withlacoochee WWTP.
- 2014 Projects – Smoke Testing Phase 1; Begin Force Main Project Construction, Phase 5 of Manhole Replacement / Rehabilitation Program; Upgrade or replacement of additional lift stations; Purchase first generator; and Award contract for relocation of the plant.

Other important major sewer related projects underway during this time frame were the Expansion and Rehabilitation of the Mud Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant; the extension of water and sewer services to numerous annexed islands per court order; and significant recovery efforts at the Withlacoochee WWTP following the 2009 flood event.